

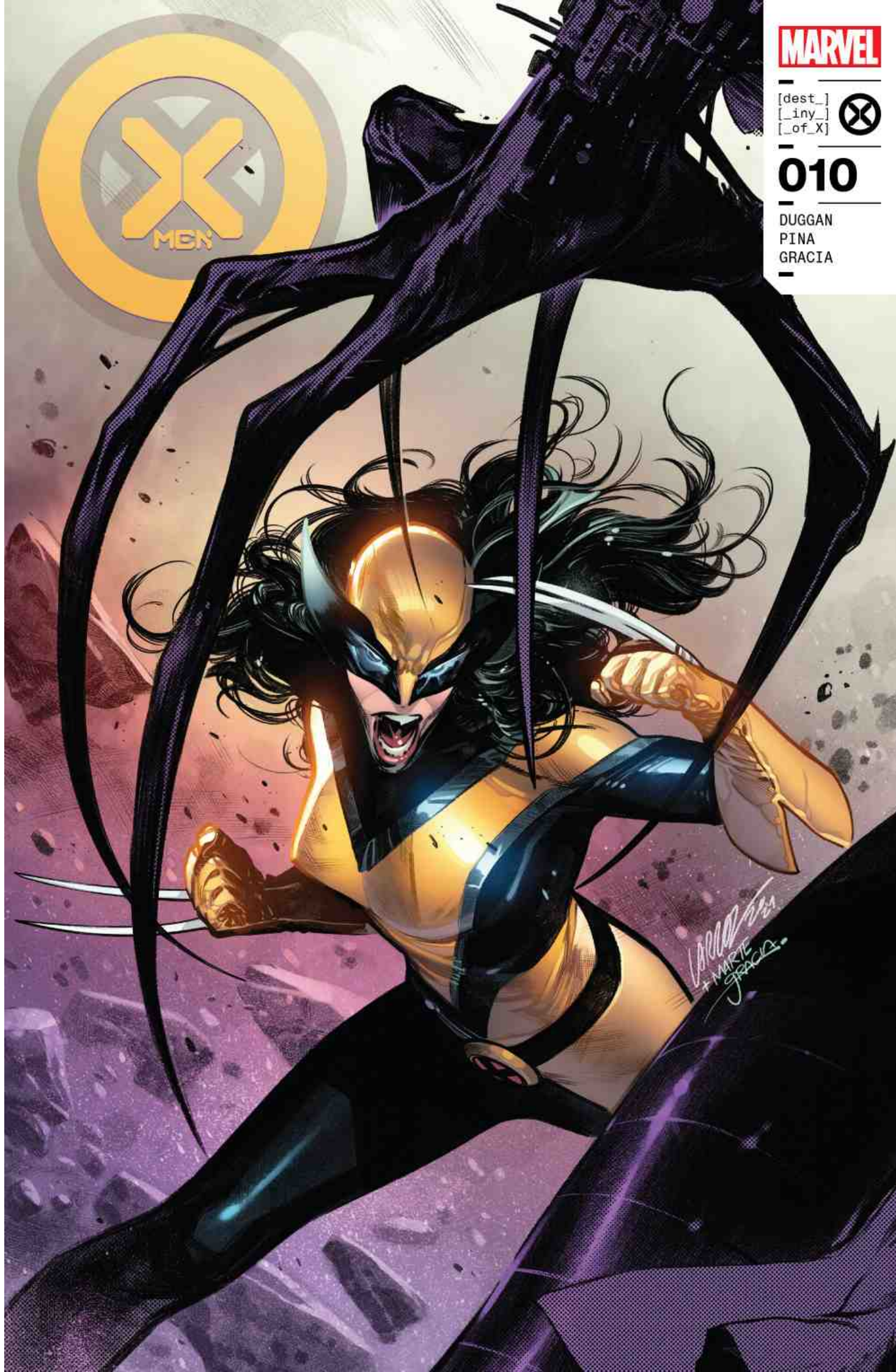
MARVEL

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010

DUGGAN
PINA
GRACIA



Not long ago on
Krakoa at the
Arbor Magna.

Remember,
it's just her claws,
Proteus.

Right,
Egg. Just
her--

Wait,
what?



SNIKT



Whoops.
I thought all
Wolverines had
metal bones.

My
bad, my
bad.

So,
uh...is this a
mulligan?



Welcome
home, Laura.

We have
you.



Moving
on.



Arakko. The first mutant world and capital of Sol.

This is Rogue. Ah'm in position on mah grassy knoll.

Target's just comin' into position now.



Smile, you son of a--



Our collaboration with Forge worked like a charm.

The scanner rifle can take a complete snapshot across spectrums to give us total information awareness of an entire installation with a single trigger pull.

I scanned Arakko's moon-- occupied moon, Phobos.

Orchis has created a denser gravity, a breathable atmosphere under a dome and a direct-to-Earth teleportation gate.



They already have considerable defenses, and the position is reinforced daily--

--But it's not just a military outpost for Orchis--

--it's also a public relations boondoggle. Human civilian guests are present at random intervals.



"Human shields."



Exactly. Feilong is a proud man, and clever. We should not underestimate him or any of his post-human allies.



IC X-MEN

PROBLEMS IN ORBIT

Synch -- using Jean Grey's powers -- wiped the knowledge of mutant resurrection from human reporter Ben Urich's mind in order to protect Krakoa, but even with one threat eliminated, many more circle the mutant nation.

The anti-mutant organization known as Orchis continues to gather resources and plot against mutantkind. The recent establishment of an outpost on Arakko's moon Phobos by Orchis' agent Feilong has especially inspired concern and anger.

Meanwhile, somewhere in the far corners of the galaxy lies Gameworld, a deep space casino, where Cordyceps Jones is taking bets on the destruction of Earth -- and it's coming time to find out where the chips will land.



[WOLVERINE]



[ROGUE]



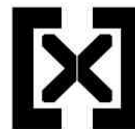
[GAMBIT]



[MARVEL GIRL]



[SYNCH]



[SUNFIRE]



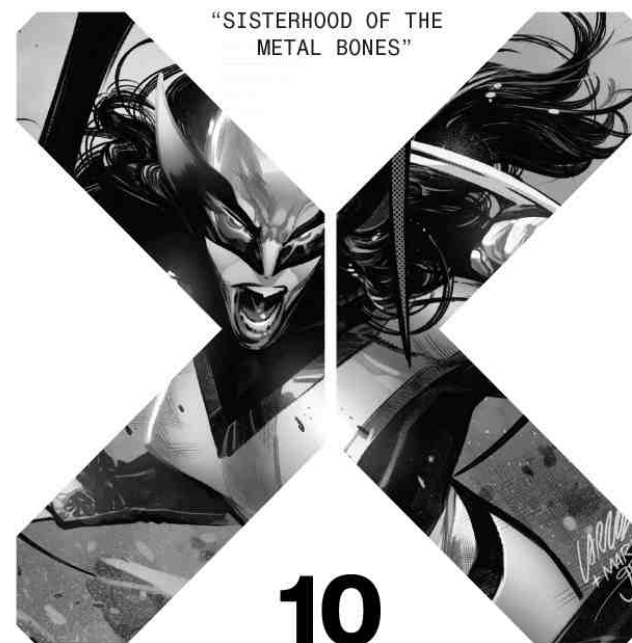
[CAPTAIN KRAKOA]



[DESTINY]



[FEILONG]



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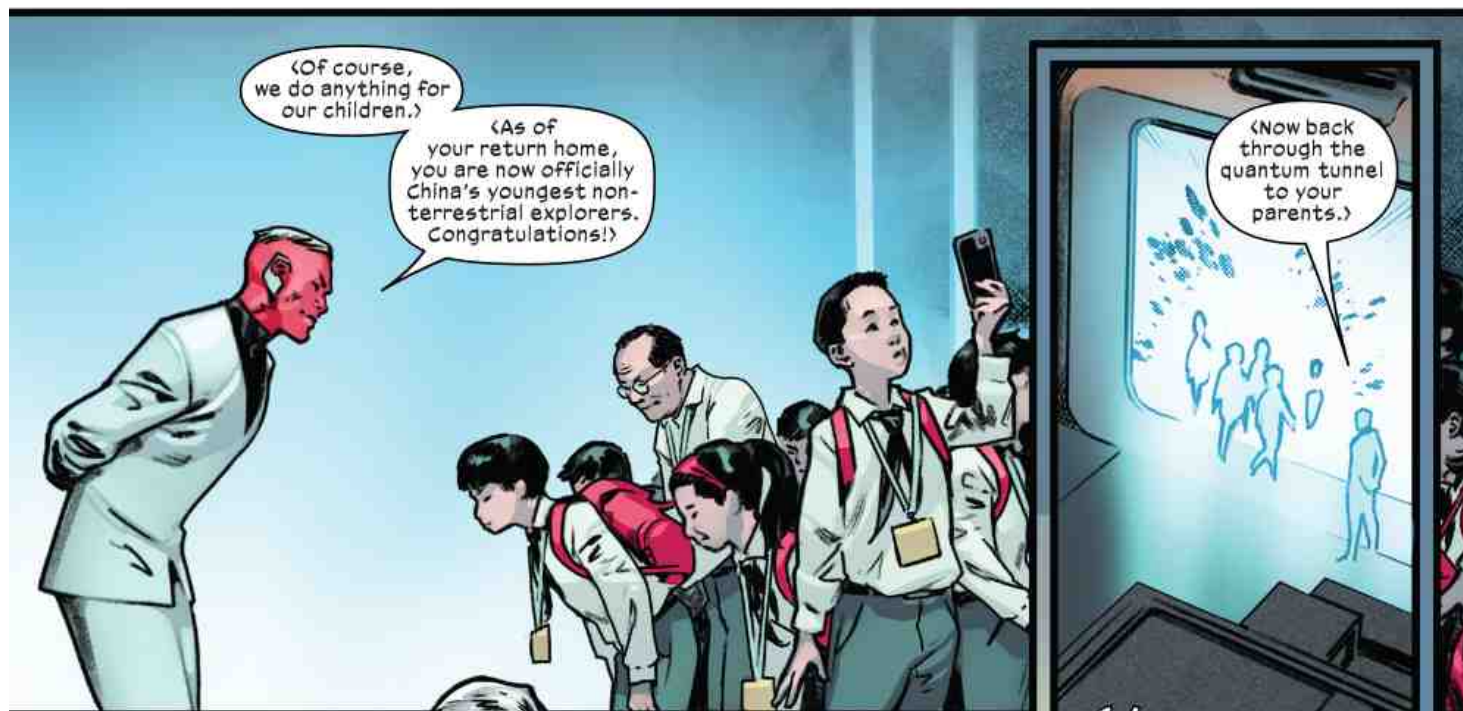
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Cover Artists

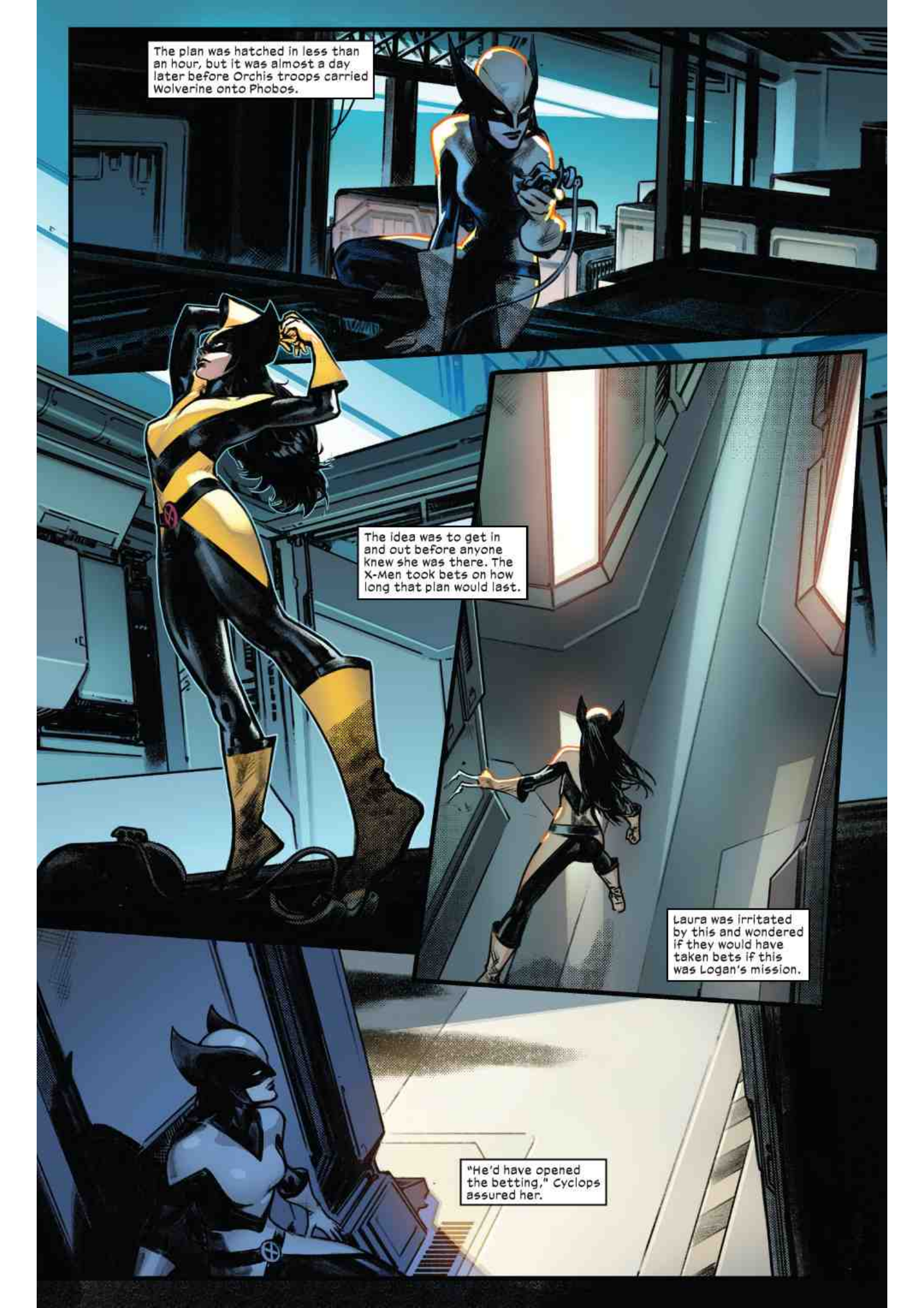
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Stan Lee & Jack Kirby

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The plan was hatched in less than an hour, but it was almost a day later before Orchis troops carried Wolverine onto Phobos.

The idea was to get in and out before anyone knew she was there. The X-Men took bets on how long that plan would last.

Laura was irritated by this and wondered if they would have taken bets if this was Logan's mission.

"He'd have opened the betting," Cyclops assured her.



None of the X-Men tried to talk Wolverine out of sneaking onto Phobos.



The black science that conjured her from Weapon X's DNA had cloned many sisters of Laura Kinney...

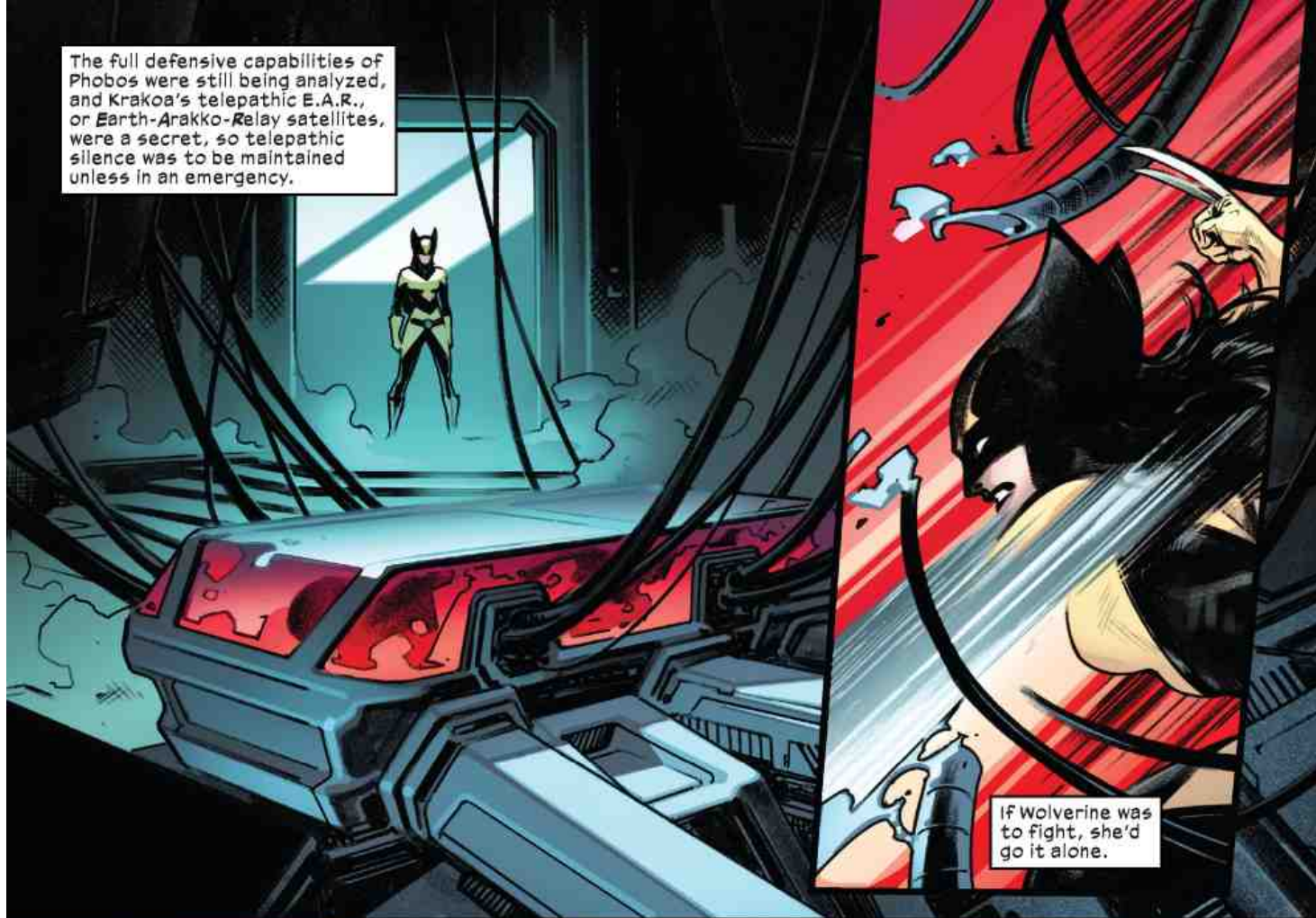


...if there was even a tiny chance that one had been captured, Laura would stop at nothing.



All anyone could do was simply... place their bets.

The full defensive capabilities of Phobos were still being analyzed, and Krakoa's telepathic E.A.R., or Earth-Arakko-Relay satellites, were a secret, so telepathic silence was to be maintained unless in an emergency.



If Wolverine was to fight, she'd go it alone.



Hang on--



--I'll have you free in a sec.



Oh, hell.



RAAARGH!

Where's Stasis?!

I'll kill you all!

Hang on, Deathstrike! You're a prisoner of--

--the X-Men?!

He traded me to Krakoa.

SNACK

Listen, I found you here. I don't wanna fight you, but if I had to...it'd go as well as the last time you and I scrapped.



If you didn't want a fight--



--you said the wrong thing!



Tsk.

I tried the easy way.

SNKKT
SNKKT
SNKKT





It's...
the damn
metal...



...the
adamantium.



It's
poisoning
you.

I've seen
it before. It'll
be the end of
us all.



Ha.
Ow. Me
first.

What little
there is left of
me to be able to
be poisoned to
death.

Dr. Stasis
said he could help
me, and then he changed
his mind. Said I was more
machine than human. Orchis
passed me between their
mad scientists.

Where
on Earth am
I?

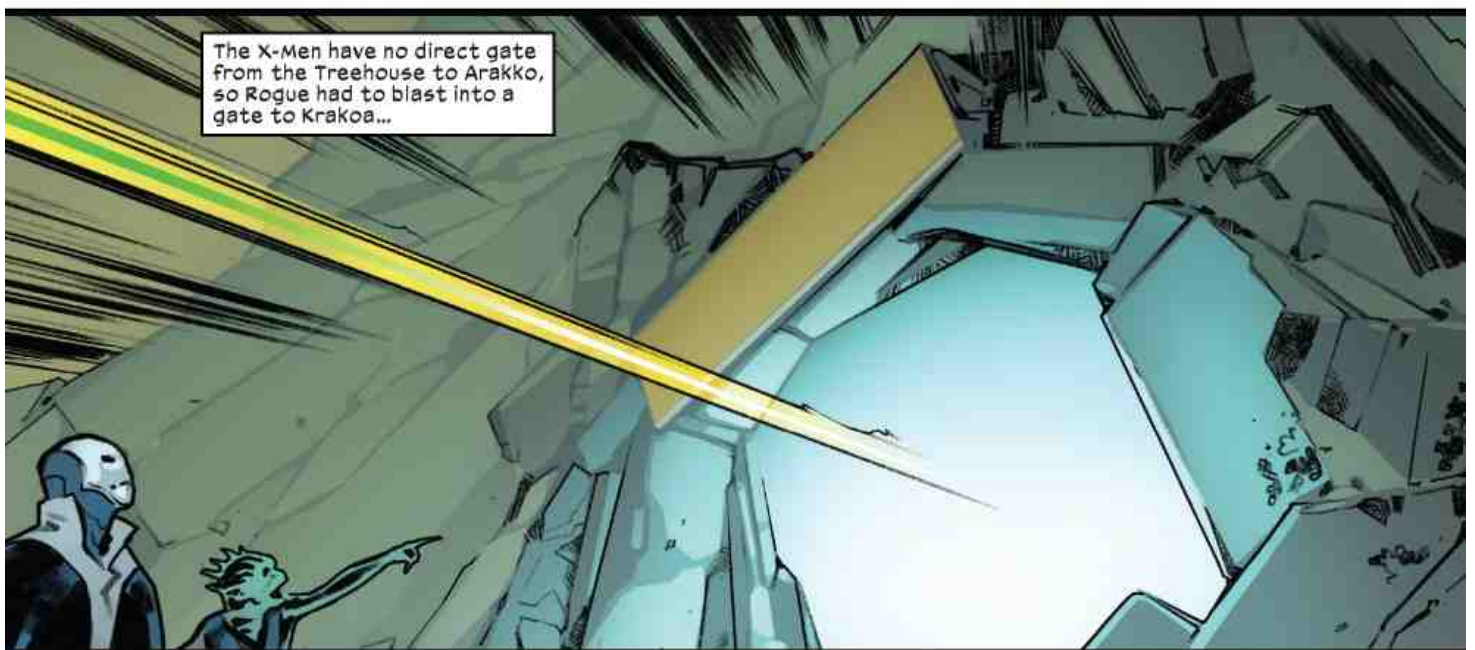
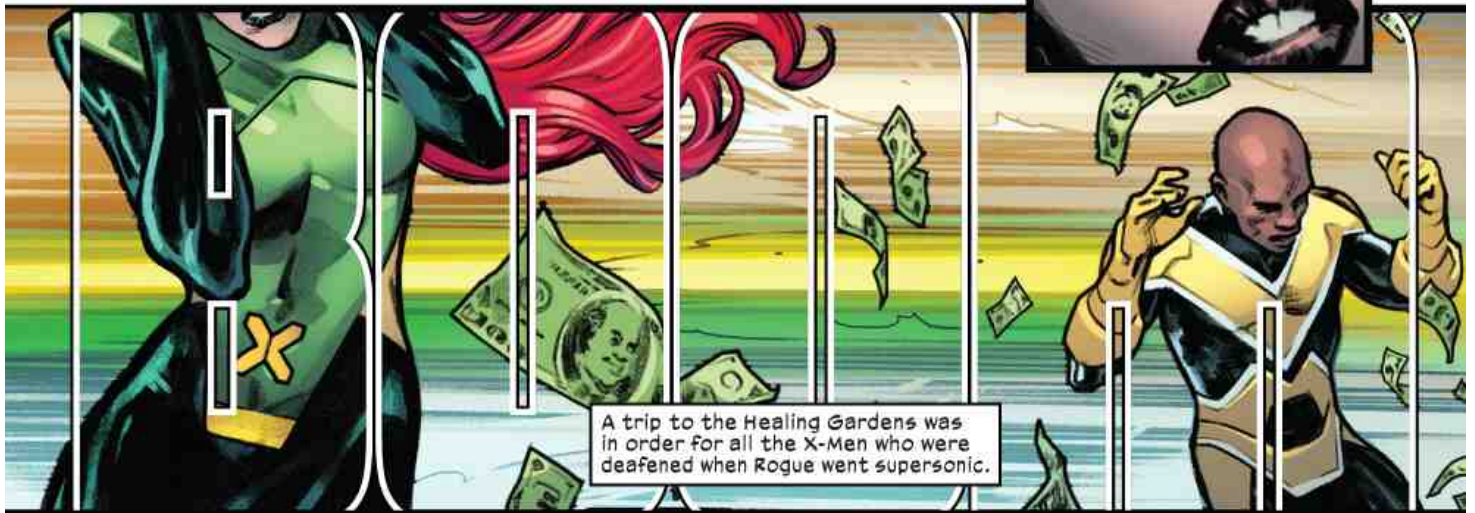
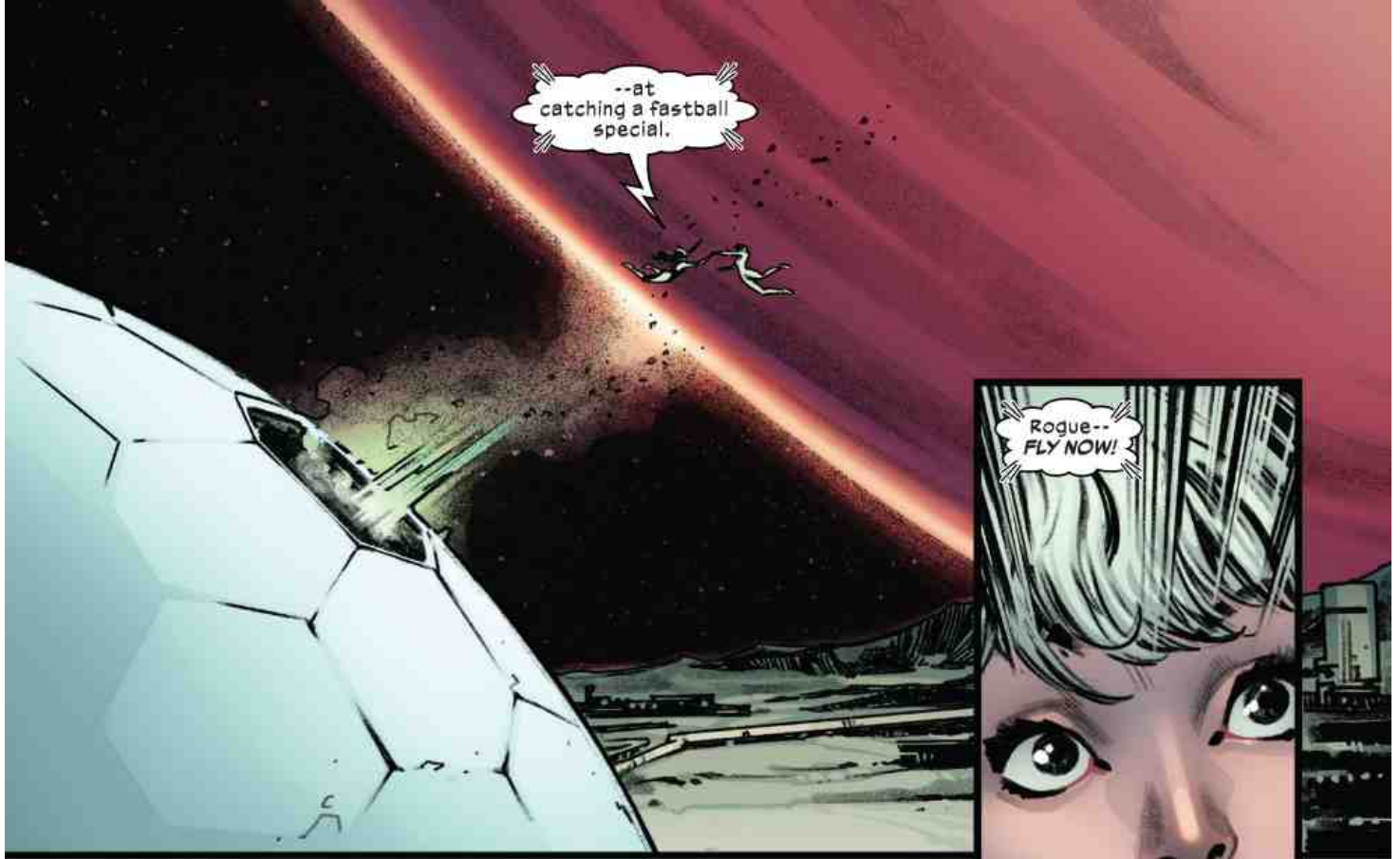


Wrong
planet. Long
story.

Let's just
get out of
here.







...in order to
slingshot to
the next
planet over.

Guide me
in, Jeannie.

They're
dropping too fast,
Rogue.

They
alive?

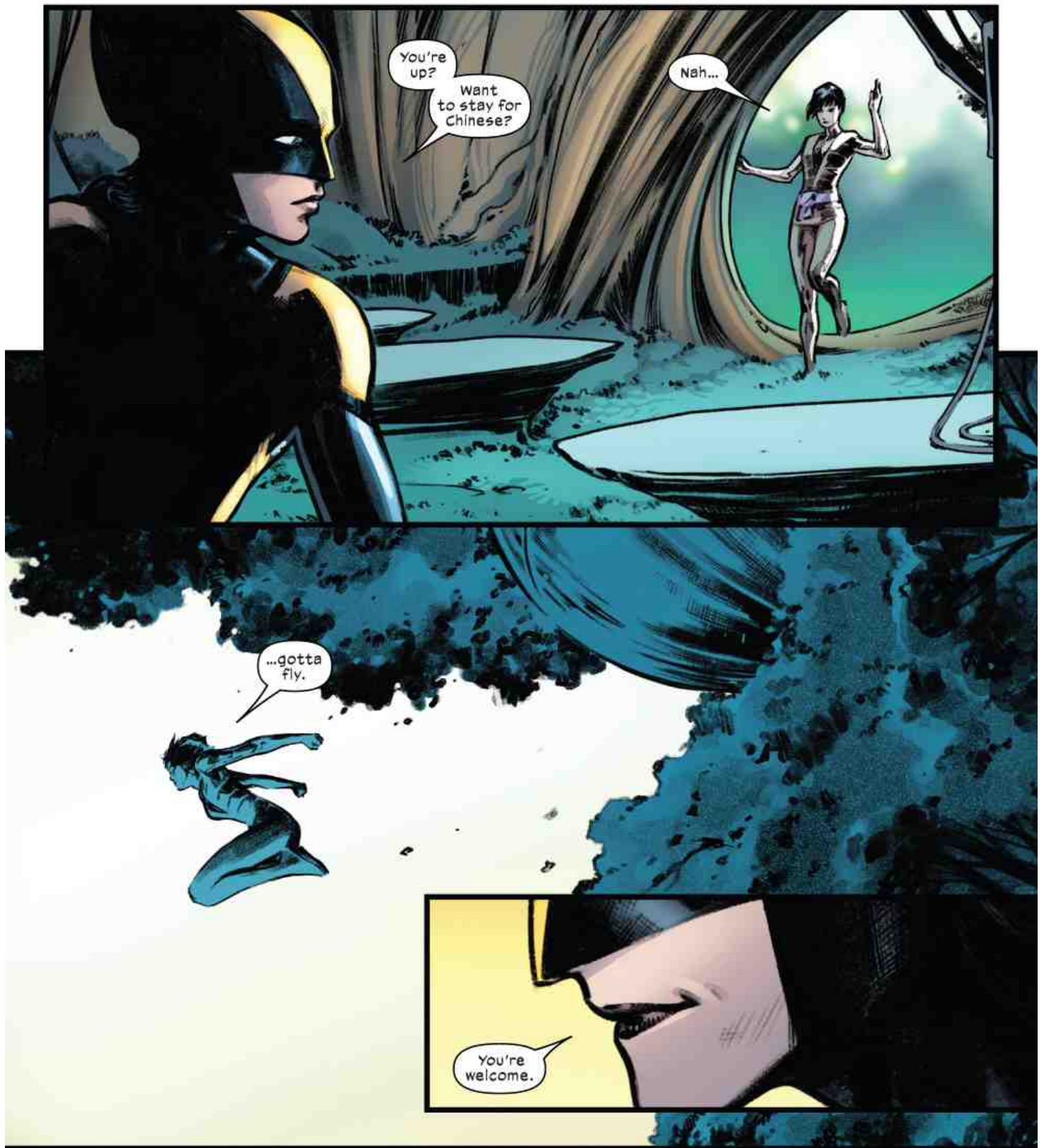
For the
moment.

Then
that's all ah
need.

Back
when we played
softball at the
school...

...I
was a golden
glove!







... There are always going to be things to fix, but you're acting like this world needs to be burned to the ground.



Sometimes fire--

No. No, Irene. You are wasting your gifts.



What a shame it is for you to return and spot all the icebergs...



...and then delight as we plow into them.



You will come to see things my way, and...I don't relish it. It will change you.

And you already know the way to Gameworld. Ask your husband's "small blind."



Aw, crud. I think we're about to get our butts kicked out again.

Remy, can I borrow you fer a minute? Won't take long.

Pardon.



Ya
sure bout
this?

She
said "small
blind."

Well, don't
tell him that's
my name for him, or
he'll rip my face
off, and--

Hey,
Rocky!

Anna
Marie!

You know,
you're the only
one I let call
me that.

How come
you only hit me
up when you need
something?



Who
says I need
something,
Sugah?

Wait--he's
"Sugah"?

C'mon.
What kinda
rube do ya
think I
am?

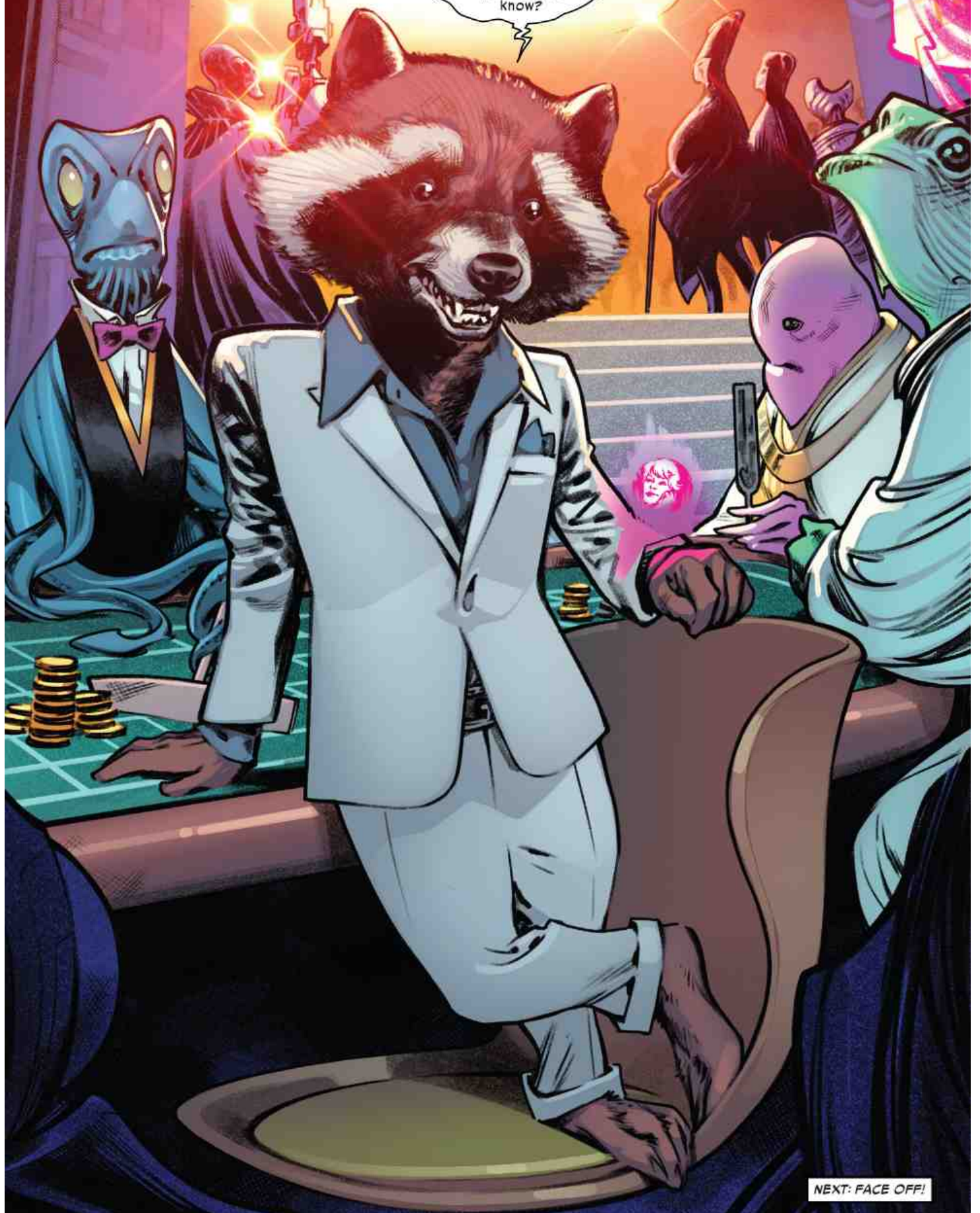


Well, I
did want to talk
to you about
Gameworld.

Gameworld,
huh?

I'm guessin'
it's about the "high-
stakes games" that
I, uh--don't know
nothing about.

I dunno
why you think I'd
know about this place--
I mean, that place, I
mean--okay, what do
you want to
know?



NEXT: FACE OFF!



ORCHIS PROTOCOL

INTERNAL COMMUNIQUÉ FROM THE DESK OF DOCTOR STASIS, ORCHIS HUMAN / RESOURCES DIRECTOR.

INCOMING:

To Masters Feilong and Stasis,

I know you both fairly well, though you do not know me. Call it “past lives” or woman’s intuition, or...something more?

I even know something of your intentions, and I wonder if I might call on you to discuss certain proposals?

Let me know.

-- M

OUTGOING:

We don’t know how you accessed our internal relays, but we’re impressed, intrigued and somewhat perturbed, so of course I’d like to meet, but you should know two things: We don’t take this intrusion lightly and recompense may be severe, and when addressing me, you should know -- it’s **Doctor Stasis**.

-- Doctor Stasis
Head of Human/Resources and
President of the Oblivion Institute

[x-men_[0.10]
[x-men_[0.10]

ic: NEXT



ISSUE:

Knights of X #1

Sabretooth #3

➤ X-Men #10

Legion of X #1

New Mutants #25

Wolverine #20

Giant-Size X-Men: Thunderbird #1

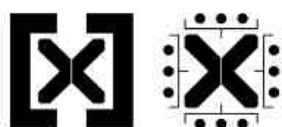
Immortal X-Men #2

Marauders #2

X-Men Red #2

X-Force #28

X-Men #11



[kra_[0.0]...]
[koa_[0.0]...]

[00_x-men__10]

